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MK NEWS

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Go on a sleigh ride with Santa Claus and the rotary club

SEE **PAGES 18&19**

Carol singers in fine voice at Willen Lake

SEE **PAGE 5**

Stars are out for Christmas

STARS of Aladdin at Milton Keynes Theatre, Gareth Gates and Nicola Brazil, join MK NEWS to wish all panto-goers, as well as our readers and advertisers, a very merry Christmas.

The cast said: "We are all thrilled to be doing Aladdin this season in Milton Keynes. The audiences have been terrific and we're having great fun on stage. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all MK NEWS readers."

Tickets for next year's panto, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, are already on sale.

With just four days to go until Christmas Day, the team at your favourite newspaper will be keeping an eye on what's going on in MK, so we can bring you up to date with all the latest news and sport next Thursday.

■ For a behind the scenes look at this year's pantomime, being supported by MK NEWS, turn to MK Life from page 27.

'Learn from Harry's death'

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THE parents of a five-year-old boy who accused Milton Keynes Hospital of 'killing' him are calling on it to learn from his death.

The parents of Harry Mould, Lee and Odette, have always insisted the hospital did not give him the care he needed, causing him to die from a respiratory infection in March 2009.

As first reported by MK NEWS, the family, from Greenleys, lodged a complaint with the hospital and were considering legal action after a string of independent reports were carried out into the case.

Now, almost three years later, the Moulds finally have the answers they were seeking.

On Friday, a coroner ruled a 'gross failure to provide basic medical attention to Harry' by Milton Keynes Hospital contributed to his death.

Mrs Mould said: "We've always said to them 'you killed Harry'.

"I wanted them to be accountable and to make the changes they need to make.

"This won't bring Harry back, but it was about getting answers.

"It clearly identifies that there's changes that need to be made."

The hospital has apologised, but Mrs Mould feels it has come too late.

She said: "It was a long time coming - if we hadn't come this far I wonder if we would have ever got an apology, we gave them lots of opportunity.

"We always tried to tell them how serious it was.

"They didn't listen to what we had to say, but as a result of the inquest it's clear someone did something wrong."

Mrs Mould now says she will be persuing disciplinary action against whoever was involved at the hospital.

The family are also seeking compensation, which the hospital has said it will not contest, but Mrs Mould said this would only cover the cost of their legal fees in their fight to find out what happened.

Mrs Mould added: "I don't think there's going to be a time when we are not angry at the hospital and I just hope they are learning from what happend now.

"We are just going to try to get through Christmas and think about what to do in the new year."

The family has set up a charitable trust in Harry's memory, which will raise money for causes such as the MK Bereavement Service and help children in the city who have lost loved ones.

Lee is running two marathons for the cause next year.

If you would like to donate, visit www.harrysrainbow.co.uk.

■ For more on this story, turn to page 2.

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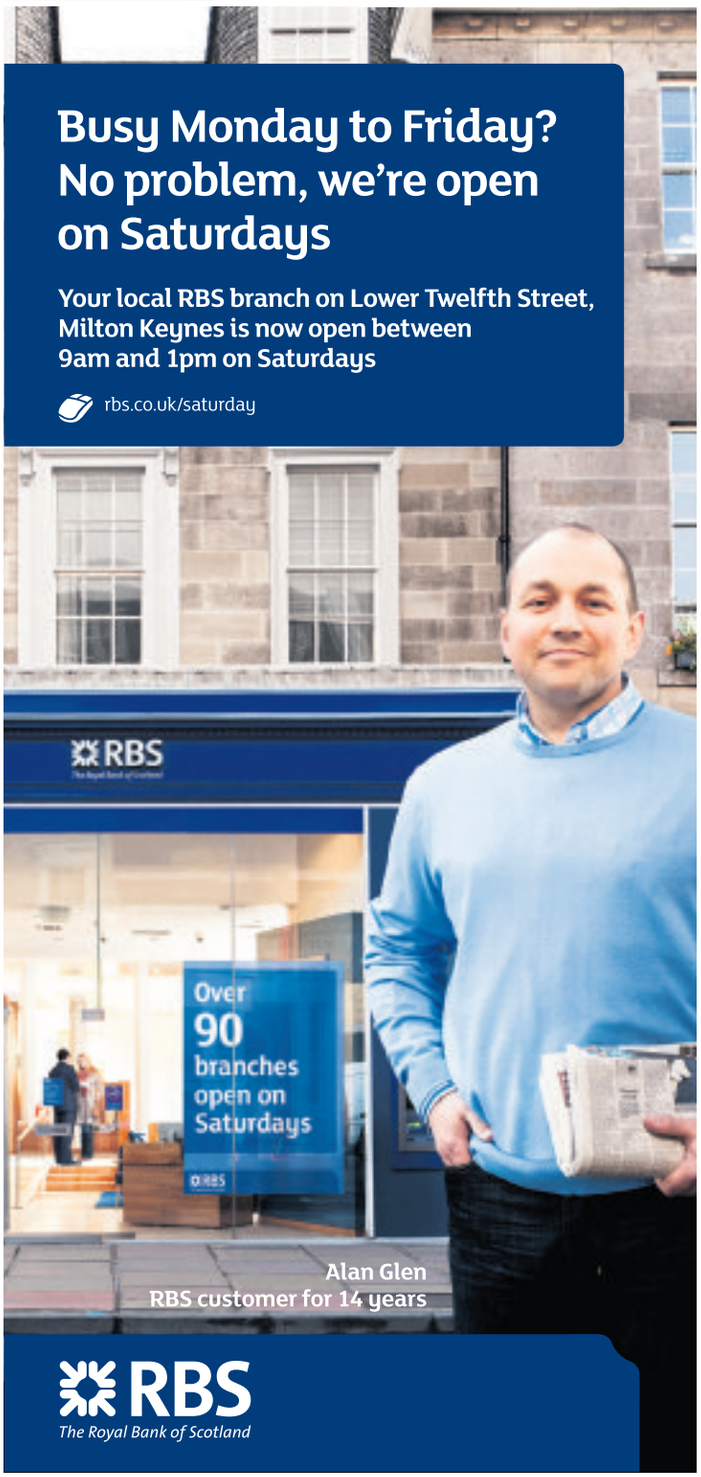


Hospital says sorry after Harry's death

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

AN APOLOGY has been issued by Milton Keynes Hospital in the wake of the inquest into Harry Mould's death.

Following the coroner's verdict on Friday, in which he said Harry didn't receive the proper care and observations he needed, the hospital trust's medical director Martin Wetherill, *pictured right*, said sorry, adding an apology should have been made earlier.

He also said the trust would not contest any compensation claim that is made.

His statement read: "I would like to say sorry to Mr and Mrs Mould for the failings identified by the coroner in the care of their son, Harry, who died following treatment in the hospital.

"The trust fully accepts the verdict.

"We continually review how we provide care but Harry's death in March 2009 has given this process much greater impetus.

"Recent changes have included the further development of high dependency care.

"We now have two fully-staffed high dependency beds, expanding to four in February, so that very ill children receive increased clinical attention from senior nurses and doctors at all times.

"The trust has also substantially improved its paediatric early warning system which alerts staff if there is cause for concern.

"The distress that Mr and Mrs Mould have been through over the last two years is unimaginable and we should have formally apologised to them before now."

Tragic: Harry Mould pulls faces at the wedding of his parents, Odette and Lee, with twin sister Jessica

'Failure to provide medical attention'

A CORONER has ruled neglect by medical staff was to blame for the death of Harry Mould.

Donald Coutts-Wood, coroner for Leicester City and South Leicestershire, said Harry, from Greenleys, died of natural causes.

But he said neglect was a contributory factor and accused Milton Keynes Hospital of a 'gross failure to provide basic medical attention to Harry'.

Harry was admitted to the hospital with breathing difficulties on March 26, 2009. He was later transferred to Leicester Royal Infirmary where he died on March 31.

His family claimed he was not checked regularly by staff at the hospital.

The inquest heard Harry, who suffered from asthma, died from a lower respiratory infection and had suffered a brain injury while in hospital.

Delivering his verdict after a two-week inquest, Mr Coutts-Wood said: "For some time prior to, but certainly in the period between approximately 8.30pm and 9.35pm on March 27, 2009, at Milton Keynes Hospital, Harry was not receiving all the appropriate observations and care that he required.

"It is at this time he sustains the hypoxic insult (oxygen deprivation) that results in his death and there was a gross failure to provide basic medical attention.

"The failure has a clear and direct causal connection with Harry's death, and had action been taken prior to, or shortly after 8.30pm, he would, on the balance of probabilities, have survived."

Talking newspaper service is going digital

THE city's talking newspaper will be available on the internet from next month.

Every week since 1976 volunteers at Sound News have been recording one hour of news from the local papers, including MK NEWS, and sending cassette tapes to more than 200 listeners who have a visual disability.

The committee for Sound News has been having regular discussions about how it might expand the way it provides the weekly news and from January 6 the service will be available from the web.

It will produce a digital mp3 file, which will then be uploaded to a British Wireless for the Blind server where it can be downloaded by listeners, and also accessed via the BWB Sonata equipment for those who have the internet radio device.

But the cassette tape continues to be popular with listeners, so this service will still be delivered in the same format.

For further information about the cassette tape and digital service, send an email to sound.news@talk21.com.

Taking steps to light up the tree

SHOPPERS can now use foot-step power to light up Christmas.

Until Christmas Eve, they can try out the UK's first kinetic Christmas tree in Midsummer Place, where they can get stepping to power the 20-foot Norwegian spruce's 1,000 lights.

'Elf and fitness' instructors will be on hand to get shoppers walking across special paving slabs that power the lights from the energy in their feet.

Martin Hindson, centre manager at Midsummer Place, said: "The kinetic tree is a wonderful focal point and while it is fun and engaging for our shoppers, it also delivers a clear message about our ongoing commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability.

"As a major shopping centre we are extremely proactive with recycling and work hard with our tenants to ensure we lead by example on all energy saving issues."

Let there be light: Elf and fitness instructors show how it's done

'David vs Goliath'

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

OPPOSITION is building against a planning application for a centre for mental health patients after the residents and parish council joined forces.

Last week residents formed the White Hart Campaign Group against the Cambian application for the derelict pub site in Whaddon Way, Bletchley.

And on Monday night, West Bletchley Parish Council made the decision to support the group in its campaign.

Councillor Nigel Long, who presented the motion to the council, said at the meeting: "This is about David versus Goliath, the community taking on a very large, wealthy provider that makes a lot of money.

"The question is how can they do that? It's quite clear that if we are going to seriously challenge the application, we need some expert advice alongside it.

"We need some independent advice about what the implications of this big development might be."

The council will now be providing a maximum of £10,000 to fund an independent report into the implications of the development, and a survey into the potential parking and traffic issues it could cause.

By doing so it hopes to oppose the application purely on the grounds of planning issues, and so stand more of a chance in getting it rejected by the planning committee at Milton Keynes Council when it makes its decision.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Border Agency raids

SIX people have been arrested following Border Agency raids at a pizza takeaway shop. Officers visited Papa Luigi Dial-a-Pizza in Heathfield, Stacey Bushes, last Wednesday. Two Pakistani men were arrested for being in the country illegally and a Pakistani and Sri Lankan man were arrested for entering the country illegally. Two others, a man and woman, were also later arrested in Windsor Street, Bletchley, for overstaying their visas.

Crash survivor jailed

A MAN who admitted 'exaggerating' injuries from a car crash which killed two of his friends to maximise a damages claim has been jailed. Michael Richards, 31, of Galloway Close, Bletchley, was found guilty of contempt of court and jailed for four months after the hearing at the High Court. His sister Serina Richards received 14 days' jail, and his foster father Terence Alan Bassnett received 14 days' jail suspended for six months, for their roles in the case.

Swan opening Friday

THE Swan Inn, Milton Keynes Village, will reopen on Friday.

Council's HiMO appeal fails

THE court of appeal has dismissed a case brought by Milton Keynes Council against changes to the planning system introduced by the Government.

In October 2010 the Government changed the law to allow a house to be converted into a House in Multiple Occupation (HiMO) without the need to seek planning permission.

The council then launched a judicial review claim against the legislation, arguing it had been implemented without proper consultation with local planning authorities.

The claim was dismissed in the High Court in April, so the council appealed, which was then dismissed on Friday.

Last year, the council used powers, known as Article 4 Directions, to remove the right to change to a HiMO without permission, but those looking to do so could have sought compensation under the direction's rules in the 12 months following its enforcement.

City centre police station to close

A POLICE station in the city centre will close in the new year.

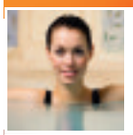
Neighbourhood officers and staff currently based at the station next to Midsummer Place shopping centre will relocate to the main station in Witan Gate East on January 12.

The office will be closed to the public from January 10.

Superintendant Nikki Ross said: "In the light of budget cuts, we are unable to justify the cost of keeping Midsummer Place station open when we have a much larger police station just a short distance away.

"We have looked at a number of options, including cost reductions and partnership funding, in an attempt to keep Midsummer Place station open, but we have been unable to secure the necessary agreements in the current economic climate.

"I would like to reassure the public that there will be no reduction in the level of front-line policing as a result of the move."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www.mk-news.co.uk
Phone: 01908 242490
Fax 01908 689550
Office open 9am-5.30pm or by appointment.
Published and originated by LSN Media Ltd
Printed by Iliffe Print in Cambridge

MK LETTERS

Letters to The Editor, MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes MK15 0DU | letters@mk-news.co.uk

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Two options for travel

SIR - It was difficult to ascertain what Mr Vaidyanathan's point was when commenting on the proposed funding of East – West Rail (Letters, MK NEWS, December 14). Perhaps a lack of understanding of the process for reopening the line is the cause.

Firstly the Chancellor announced that £230million would be allocated to the capital works to reinstate the track between Oxford and Bletchley, along with further works between Bletchley and Bedford.

This part Mr Vaidyanathan seems to understand but he then veers off at a tangent regarding the present local stopping service between Bletchley and Bedford.

The purpose of East–West Rail is to provide a fast regional service connecting Bedford to Milton Keynes and Aylesbury/Oxford, it is not about incorporating the present local stopping trains into that fast service.

The money the Chancellor has committed to the scheme will enable tracks to be relaid for 90 or 100mph services to run. There is no business case for increasing the present hourly stopping service (average passenger loadings often do not get into double figures per train) or slowing the fast regional service by stopping at places like Millbrook or Kempston Hardwick.

Secondly, Mr Vaidyanathan comments that Network Rail spent £30million on the Bletchley to Bedford line in 2005 and the passenger service was not improved.

That was because that money was never intended to upgrade the local passenger service but had to be spent by Network Rail because:

1. The signalling system was virtually life expired and would soon have constituted a safety risk if not replaced.

2. The route needed new track to enable the freight trains delivering materials from the Stewartby depot for the West Coast Main Line Route Modernisation, which was then underway, to run along it.

The East–West Rail scheme has a very good business case and once the track is re-instated the Department for Transport will ask for bids for a franchise to operate a passenger service.

Chiltern Railways have already expressed an interest in the Aylesbury to Milton Keynes service by extending their present Marylebone to Aylesbury Vale Parkway trains through to Milton Keynes. Other train operators could be equally interested, but not if these trains have to stop "all shacks" from Bletchley to Bedford.

The intention is that local residents will have two services operating over the route, a fast inter regional service and the present, hourly stopping trains.

Brian Ringer
Sedgemere,
Two Mile Ash

How much has it cost?

SIR - The review of the people of Milton Keynes who had voted at the time of November 28, which was published for the debate on the Fenny Lock travellers' site, showed that 52 people voted for the site to go ahead, 361 voted for getting homes for those in need, 233 voted for improving houses, 165 voted for a mix of all options and 39 voted for a different housing project.

This meeting was supposed to be about value for money but it never was, no-one ever mentioned it.

Everyone talks about £600,000 already being spent on the travellers' site.

On the front of the debate form it stated money spent/set aside for and at the last cabinet meeting only approximately £280,000 had been spent, so where has the other money gone if £600,000 has been already spent?

Gloria Harper
Simpson

Is this value for money?

SIR - I don't think work on the travellers' site should continue.

In these tough economic times how does £180,000 for each building containing just a kitchen and a bathroom equate to good value for money?

Think of how many new homes could be built for that, what a frivolous waste!

These people are travellers so why on earth do they need static buildings?

We have hundreds of homeless families in Milton Keynes and I think they need to be given priority, and more than ten homes could be built with £1.8million.

Valerie Gates
Sent by e-mail

Thanks for the support

SIR - Home-Start MK would like to thank West Bletchley Council, MK NEWS, Milton Keynes College and the other sponsors of the Bletchley Park Festival of Christmas, in particular for choosing Home-Start MK to be the nominated charity at the Father Christmas Grotto.

We would especially like to thank everyone who contributed to our collection, which raised just over £500 to help support vulnerable families with young children who live in Milton Keynes.

Steph Ellis
Senior co-ordinator
Home-Start MK

Bag packing success

SIR - May we, Great Linford Scout Group, use your letters page to thank the customers of Marks and Spencer in Central Milton Keynes, who over the weekend of December 3 and 4 generously donated a total of £1,045 when our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts were fundraising by bag packing.

Our thanks must also go to the management and staff of Marks and Spencer who gave us both permission and support to fundraise at their store.

Paul Monro
Group treasurer
Great Linford Scout Group

Mark's Monthly Focus

Put your questions to Mark Lancaster MP

What topics would you like to see here?

I AM very excited to launch Mark's Monthly Focus, my new column for MK NEWS where I'll be answering the questions generated by you, the reader.

One of the high points of my week has always been meeting my constituents from across the city, who come from all walks of life. But I know that there are many more people out there with burning questions to ask who I haven't yet been able to meet.

My aim is to open up a dialogue among many of MK's community leaders and residents in order to address the issues which concern you the most – whether it's the environment or the EU, no matter is too small. It will also give you a clearer idea of what I stand for and how I can help in representing the causes you champion.

Mark Lancaster with Sara Turnbull and her father Philip at MK Credit Union - one of the groups he is hoping to help

This week, I visited Southwood School in Conniburrow, where I talked to middle school students about the importance of engaging with politics.

That's just one issue I currently connect with among local residents, and Mark's Monthly Focus will provide me with a new way to reach out to the people of MK.

I am proud of the work I do in the Department for International Development, but my first loyalty will always be with the people of Milton Keynes, whom I represent.

With the help of MK NEWS, I'll be compiling a list of all those who want to put their questions to me and each month I will present my personal thoughts here. I'm really looking forward to receiving your questions and I hope you'll regularly turn to these very pages and check in on who is quizzing me.

In the meantime, I wish you all a fulfilling festive season and a very happy new year!

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Festive fun at carol service

MORE than 100 people were in fine voice on Sunday evening as they braved the bitter cold to get into the Christmas spirit.

A special carol service was held on the bank of Willen Lake North by The Parks Trust, with dozens of people turning out for the festive singalong.

Favourites including Silent Night, Good King Wenceslas and Jingle Bells were sung, supported by music from a full brass band.

Mulled wine and other hot refreshments were on offer to keep all of the carollers warm.

Caroller Barbara Britton, from Aspley Heath, said: "Despite the damp and cold weather it was really lovely to see so many people turn out.

"Everybody joined in the fun and the brass band really added to the festive spirit.

"After it was finished, I really felt as if Christmas is around the corner."

Festive spirit: Carollers at Willen Lake on Sunday evening

Jogger flashed at by man on a bike

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A JOGGER had her path blocked by a man on a bike before he exposed himself.

Thames Valley Police is now appealing for witnesses after the incident at Furzton Lake on Saturday.

At 3.30pm, the 33-year-old woman was jogging around the lake when a man blocked her route over a bridge with his bike and exposed himself.

The man was distracted by a member of the public, who was walking his dog, and the victim ran past the offender and rang the police.

PC James Punter, of Milton Keynes Police Station, said: "I would like to appeal to anyone who has information about this man or may have seen a man acting suspiciously in the area around the time of the incident.

"I am keen to identify an elderly gentleman who had a white Scottie dog with him along the Loughton Brook area of Furzton Lake. This gentleman leashed his dog to allow the victim to pass him moments before.

"There were a number of people who the aggrieved ran past just after the incident."

The man is described as white, aged between 18 and 21 years old and between 5ft 6ins and 5ft 9ins.

He is of large build and has short chopped fair hair.

He was wearing a plain grey hooded top with large white drawstrings and pale blue/stone washed baggy jeans.

The bike was described as 'not being noticeable' and believed to be either a grey or silver mountain bike with straight handle bars.

The victim was wearing black running trousers, an orange and black vest, a blue jacket around her waist and a black beanie hat.

If you have information call 101, or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Internet speed increase

WEB users in Bradwell Abbey will have access to BT's super-fast broadband. Residents and businesses have been 'test-driving' this technology and BT has revealed 20,000 more homes will be able to receive the broadband by the end of 2012. Fibre to the curb (FTTC), delivered to street cabinets, currently offers download speeds of up to 40Mbps. Openreach has said it will roughly double these speeds next year.

House owner in court

A MAN appeared at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court on Friday charged with a number of fire safety offences in connection with a fire at a house he owns in Fishermead in September 2010. At the hearing, Lookman Adeyemi, whose UK address is Buckfast Avenue, Bletchley, indicated a not guilty plea to the charges. He is due to reappear for a committal hearing today.

800 cannabis plants found

CANNABIS plants, which could be worth more than £800,000, were found in a police raid last week.

On Thursday, Thames Valley Police raided two industrial units in the city.

At one of these units in Alston Drive in Bradwell Abbey, a cannabis factory was discovered and police found 800 plants.

Early estimates put the total street value at anywhere between £426,000 and £840,000.

At the other unit, on the Stacey Bushes trading centre, nothing was found.

The warrants were carried out as part of an operation targeting industrial units.

In all nine men, whose ages range from 23 to 51, have been arrested - two have been bailed until February 8 and all of the others have been bailed until February 7.

Teens assaulted

THREE boys were robbed and assaulted in the area of Oxley Park on Friday.

The boys, aged 13 and 14, were at the underpass near Stanwyck Lane at about 8.30pm when the offenders attacked them and stole one of the boy's mobile phone. Anyone with information should call Milton Keynes police on 101.

Candles warning

A MAN who fell asleep after lighting 15 candles had his hands burnt when he tried to put out a fire they caused.

Two fire crews were called to the incident in Turneys Drive, Wolverton Mill, at 10.16pm on Friday.

Firefighters have now reissued a warning for people to be careful with candles this Christmas.

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A 'perfect storm' of events killed racer

BY DAN PALMER
dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

RACING hero Dan Wheldon died because of a 'perfect storm' of events, the chief executive of IndyCar has ruled.

Randy Bernard was speaking after a two-month investigation into the tragic death of the two-time Indianapolis 500 winner from Emberton.

He died following a horror smash at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway on October 13.

Dan was attempting to earn $5million by winning the race from the back of the field before the multi-car pile-up claimed his life.

Afterwards, safety concerns were raised about the number of cars which were racing on the narrow oval circuit at high speed.

But the IndyCar investigation has failed to pinpoint a particular cause of the accident and has ruled that the crash could have happened with any size starting field at any track.

"It is impossible to determine with certainty that the result would have been any different if one or more of the factors did not exist," Mr Bernard said.

Emberton's Dan Wheldon, *pictured insert*, died in this horror crash

"Several factors coincided to produce a perfect storm."

The report states that Dan died after colliding with one of the fence posts that line the circuit.

It 'intruded' into the cockpit of his car and made contact with his helmet and head.

A crash in front of him was a key factor, which caused a chain reaction of vehicles colliding.

Dan slowed from 224mph to 165mph and kept low but couldn't prevent himself from crashing into another car, which served as a ramp and caused his number 77 car to became airborne and crash into the post.

He suffered two distinct 'head forces' – the second of which produced the non survivable injuries.

IndyCar president of operations Brian Barnhart said: "There are multiple factors that are not uncommon to racing that came together in a way that claimed Dan's life."

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Present: Emma Gibney, five, from Furzton with MK Dons captain Dean Lewington, *left*, and Joel Gyasi

Dons spread festive cheer at hospital

PLAYERS from MK Dons brought some much-needed Christmas cheer to children who will be spending this festive period in hospital.

The team made its annual trip to the children's ward at Milton Keynes Hospital yesterday and donated gifts bought at Toys'R'Us, which also donated presents.

Manager Karl Robinson also paid a visit and helped deliver an outdoor playhouse, as well as other toys and games.

Mum killed after row with partner

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A MUM was beaten and stabbed to death after she told her partner she was having an affair.

An inquest into the death of 37-year-old Kim Jeffery was told on Friday how her partner, Blake Ross, called the police on Sunday, April 10 at 8.46pm, stating he had 'stabbed his girlfriend'.

DCI Philip Murphy told the inquest at Crownhill Crematorium that in a police interview Ross answered 'no comment' to all questions but a statement was read out.

In it, it was claimed the pair had an argument after Ms Jeffery told him she had an affair and admitted to terminating his child.

Ms Jeffery was pronounced dead later that evening at her home in Tavelhurst, Two Mile Ash.

Ross, 36, was charged with murder and was due to stand trial in October, but he was found dead in his cell at HMP Bedford on June 30. The inquest was told he had left a letter, in which he wrote he didn't want to go through a trial and the best way was for him to take his own life.

Milton Keynes coroner Tom Osborne ruled Ms Jeffery was unlawfully killed and the cause of her death was hemorrhage and airway compromise, stab wounds to the throat and blunt force trauma to the face.

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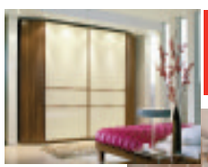

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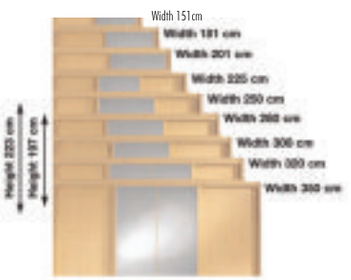

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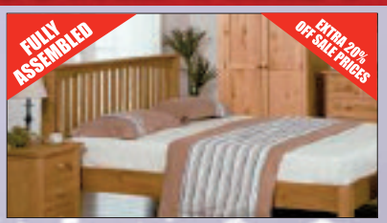

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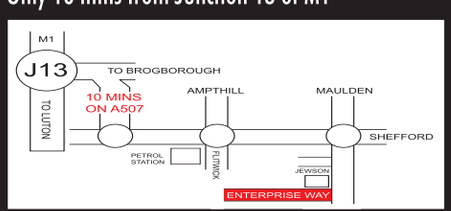

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Festive breakfast for those in need

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BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A HEARTY Christmas Day breakfast is on offer to those who most need it thanks to a new charity initiative.

On Sunday morning Make A Difference, based at the Buszy opposite Milton Keynes Central railway station, will be providing free full English breakfasts to the city's homeless and disadvantaged.

The charity is expecting about 50 people on the day, though it has said it won't turn anyone away, and there will be a veggie option, as well as activities on offer throughout the morning.

Make A Difference development manager Anna Peters said: "This is open to anyone who needs it - this is about homeless people, those from the YMCA and just anyone in need.

"A lot of people live on their own as well, so it's also for people like that who want to have a nice social Christmas morning.

"It's a traditional English cooked breakfast, with the usual things like sausages and bacon, and there's a vegetarian option, and lots of mugs of tea."

Miss Peters also explained why they aren't dishing up the usual turkey dinner.

"Christmas lunches tend to be catered for by lots of other organisations, but breakfast was one of the things there was a gap for.

"There's still a few bits we need, stuff like decorations.

"It's not just for homeless people, it's for anyone in need."

If you would like to donate anything, or would like a list of the things still needed, visit www.mad-uk.org and contact Miss Peters.

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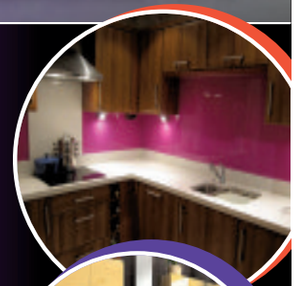

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Community may get more control

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A PILOT for a scheme which could see the community taking more control over its important assets could take place next year.

Early-stage discussions are currently underway about five assets, including Stony Stratford Library, being transferred from Milton Keynes Council (MKC) to community groups or parish councils.

As recently reported by MK NEWS, Conservative council leader, Andrew Geary, said voluntary and community organisations will be turned to in the future to take on some of the services the authority can no longer fund.

The other assets which could be transferred in the pilot include Green Park Community Centre, Simpson Village Hall, the Frank Moran Centre in Bletchley and Downs Barn Pavilion and Sports Ground.

The council said although it is still in the early stages of the programme, it has been pleased with the initial response by way of 'expressions of interest forms'.

A project team has also been set up to look at best practice in other councils which have already transferred assets to the community.

Paul Sanders, MKC's assistant director of community facilities, said: "Our aim is to be transparent throughout the process and we will shortly announce a dedicated area of the council website for the programme of work.

"This will include a list of all assets and basic information about each.

"We recognise the need and requirement to consult with parish and town councils and other organisations and we will ensure that we do just that."

Following the pilot, it is envisaged that five assets will be transferred at a time, depending on the level of interest from the community.

Simpson Village Hall is one of five assets being considered for transfer

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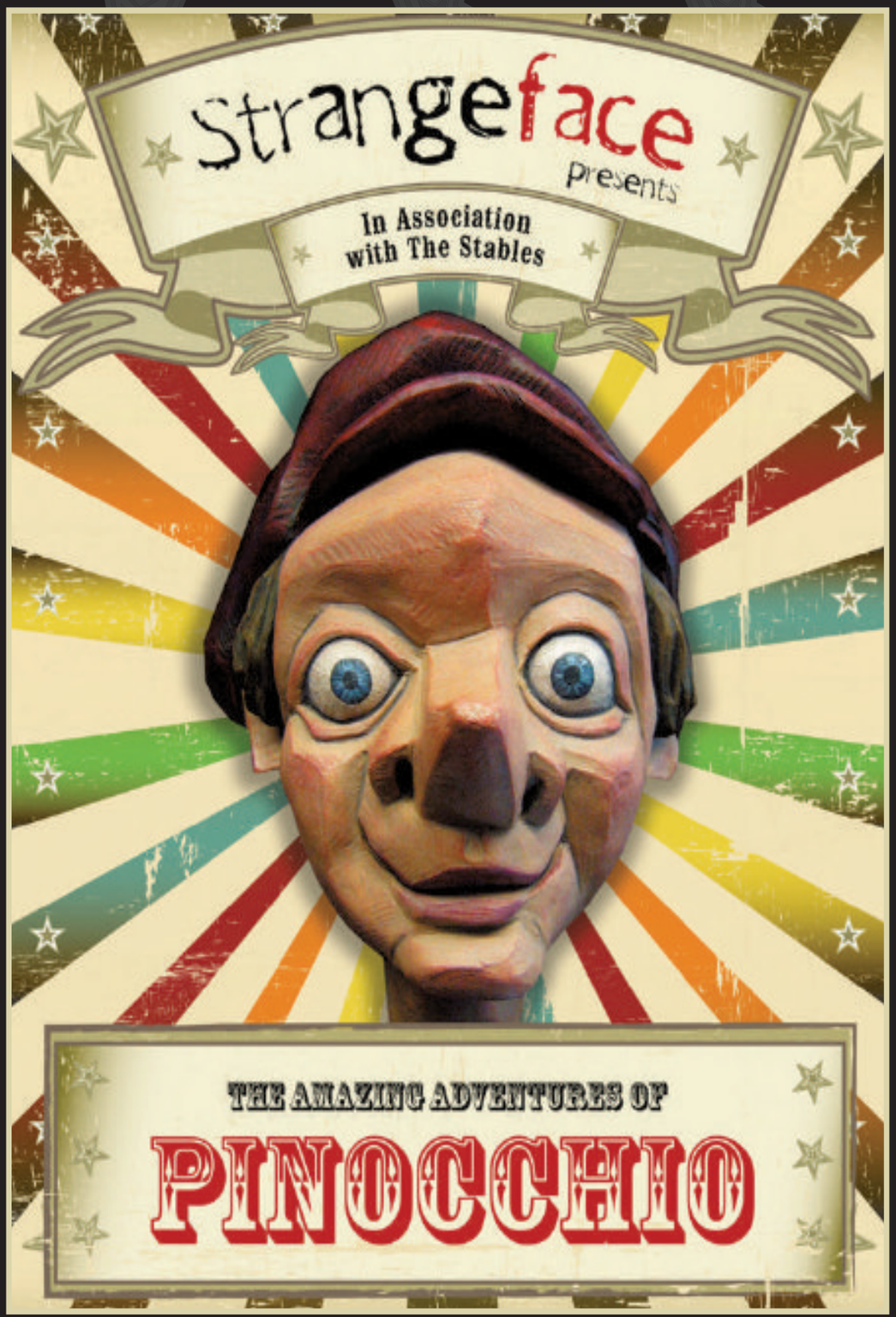

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Website has plan updates

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A NEW website has been launched by those opposed to a proposed shopping development at the heart of a town.

The Save Cofferidge Close site is now online, designed and developed by those residents in Stony Stratford who are against an application which could see a section of the close demolished to make way for a single retail unit.

The group says it is not opposed to development or investment but thinks the current proposal is inappropriate and is planning to produce a 'plan B'.

As previously reported by this paper, there is strong local opposition to the plans put forward by investor CB Richard Ellis, which could mean the town's dentist and adult education centre would have to move.

There is strong opposition to the Cofferidge Close plans

The town council is also opposing the plans and recently set in motion a process to get the building in the close listed with English Heritage.

Since that process began, not much has happened in the way of the planning application itself, and so the residents' group has put the website together.

Graham Benjamin is one of the residents. He said: "There's been a period where there's been no news on what's happening and people have been asking us for updates.

"So we have put this together and in the new year we might do a poster."

Council Budget Consultation

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/budget-consultation

Milton Keynes Council is making decisions about its 2012/13 budget to decide how best to fund and shape the services it delivers to you, and which support the communities that live, work and learn in Milton Keynes. The council is proposing a number of options in order to deliver a balanced budget and would like your feedback. Listening to your views will help us to make these difficult but necessary choices.

To find details of the budget proposals and how to respond:

Pick up a leaflet in libraries, housing offices and council offices.

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Debate: MPs Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart with the finalists

Stantonbury is top in school debates

CONGRATULATIONS to Stantonbury Campus, which has taken this year's schools debating title.

Anna Gibbs and Susannah Green won through to the final at Westminster, where they beat the team from MK Academy, Mohammed Dawood and Natalie Bramell, to take the honour.

The debating competition, this year judged by a panel including MK NEWS editor Cally Jenkins, is an annual event organised by the city's MPs for year ten to 13 students in all Milton Keynes secondary schools.

Bletchley Park gets money from Google

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

INTERNET search giant Google has given a massive boost to Bletchley Park's redevelopment plans by donating £550,000.

Last Wednesday the Bletchley Park Trust announced the donation has now brought it significantly closer to raising the match-funding needed to unlock a £4.6million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The money is needed to achieve a £15million transformation project for the site, which would see the world-famous iconic codebreaking huts one, three and six saved from dereliction.

Simon Greenish, chief executive officer of the Bletchley Park Trust, said: "We are tremendously grateful to Google for bringing us considerably closer to achieving our development aims.

"We have received other generous contributions towards the project but this is the largest single element of the partnership funding and absolutely vital in potentially getting the project underway much sooner than might otherwise have been the case.

"It would be wonderful if other donors follow Google's example to help preserve our computing heritage.

"We could then proceed as soon as possible with restoration of the profoundly historically significant codebreaking huts."

The grant is one of dozens being donated by Google.org worldwide in 2011.

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New trail brings past back to life

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

PART of a 1,000-year-old trail is being reconstructed to help pull an estate's community together.

The section of the Saxon route which runs through Netherfield, more commonly known as Jed's Trail, is being reconstructed in the playing fields at Langlands School.

The trail, which will be longer than a football field, is part of a system of paths constructed as routes between different villages that would have existed in the area between 550 and 1066AD.

Evidence of some of the earliest settlements in the area are listed in the Domesday Book of 1086, in which Woughton is registered as Ulchetone.

When finished, there will be a number of information points along the route describing its history, as well as pointing out interesting facts about the local flora and fauna.

The project is the brainchild of Keith Temple, a ranger with Woughton Community Council.

He said: "The whole idea is to involve the community in Netherfield.

Jed's Trail: Keith Temple at where the path is being reconstructed

"On one level it will be a leisure area so people can come and have picnics, and on a higher level it will get the area's schools involved, doing things like putting up bird boxes and recording what happens on and around the trail.

"We want as many of the local education establishments involved as we can.

"We are going to have rustic signs along the path, so we are looking for the younger children to design these and the older students at MK Academy to emboss the signs."

The trail is named after a former local councillor, who passed away in 2003.

Jed Adderly was vice-chairman of Woughton Parish Council and a Labour councillor for Milton Keynes. After more than ten years of service he was suddenly taken ill and died at the age of just 46.

Jed Adderly Park in Farthing Grove is also named after him.

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With GP surgeries closed on bank holidays, one of the most important things you can do if you are on regular medication is to get your repeat prescription organised now. Planning ahead will mean you will not have to worry about trying to get your medicines over the bank holiday if you run out. Contact your GP surgery now to make sure you're prepared.

Dental emergencies
For urgent dental problems outside of normal working hours, contact your dental surgery in the first instance.
For emergencies, you can also phone the MK Urgent Care Service on 01908 201022 for advice.

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Check with your GP surgery to find out their opening hours over the bank holiday period.

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Santa and Rotary do

CHRISTMAS cheer is being spread right across the north of Milton Keynes by Santa and his little helpers.

The Wolverton and Stony Stratford Rotary Club sleigh has been out for the past two weeks on its annual collection tour, with Father Christmas delighting children and adults alike.

The club aims to raise at least £6,000 this year, which will go to charities and other good causes in the area.

Mike Thomas, from the club, said: "For us this is the start of the spirit of Christmas.

"This year the reaction has been very good.

"It's really a thing that we do for the children and I was amazed when we were in Old Stratford how many kids came out despite the terrible weather - it was raining the whole two hours we were out."

Mr Thomas said he estimates the collections are well on their way to generating more than the £6,000 raised last year.

If you want to catch Santa before he returns to the North Pole for another year, he will be in Deanshanger this evening from about 6pm, and at Sainsbury's in CMK between 9am and 9pm tomorrow and Friday.

Out and about: Father Christmas, Rotary members and children during the sleigh visit to Great Holm last Wednesday evening. Pictures by Andy Handley

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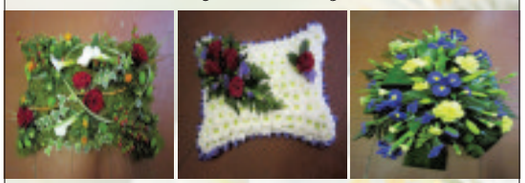

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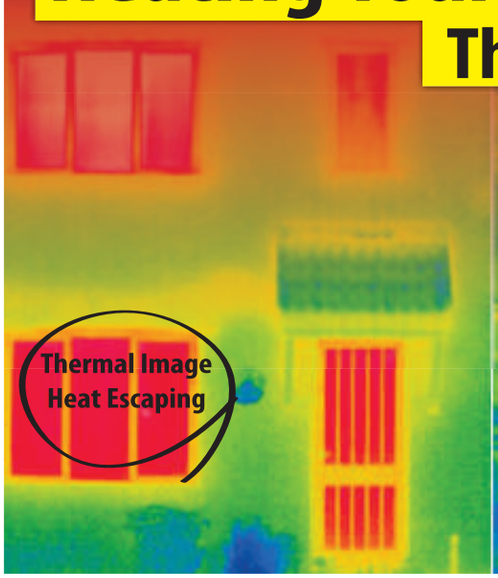

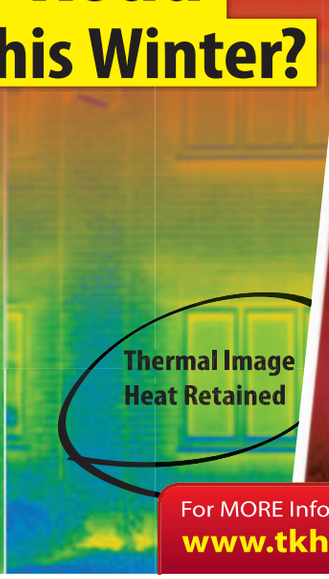

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Hawaian Cheese, Tomato, Pineapple, Ham

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£5.10	£6.90	£10.40	£13.40	£15.40

Peri- Peri Full House Cheese, Tomato, Onion, Mushroom, PeriPeri Chicken

Small 7"	Medium 9"	Large 12"	X Large 15"	Super 18"
£5.40	£8.40	£12.00	£15.40	£17.40

For stuff crust pizza add

Small 7"	Medium 9"	Large 12"	X Large 15"	Super 18"
£0.80	£1.00	£1.20	£1.70	£2.20

Extra Toppings

Small 7"	Medium 9"	Large 12"	X Large 15"	Super 18"
£0.60	£0.80	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00

Extra Topping Options: Egg.(Beef) Pepperoni, Ham, Beef, Tandori Chicken, Chicken,Tuna,Prawns, Anchovies, Onions, Capers, Chillies, Spinach, Green Peppers, Red Peppers, Black Olives, Mushrooms, Artichokes, Sweetcorn, Pineapple, Jalapino Peppers, Garlic Sauce, Chilli Sauce

Peri Peri Grill

Peri Peri Grill Food

Chicken Breast burger in Bun	£2.79
Chicken Breast in Pitta	£2.79
Peri Peri Chicken Wrap	£2.79
5 Peri Peri Chicken Wing	£2.79
5 Peri Peri Breast Strips	£2.79
¼ Peri Peri Breast Strips	£2.79
Baby Chicken Peri Peri Chicken	£2.79
Full Chicken	£7.99
½ Chicken	£4.49

Kebab Rolls

Tandori Lamb Chops (portion of four)	£4.50
Sheek Kebab (portion of four)	£3.49
Kebab Roll	£3.49
Chicken Tikka Roll	£3.99
Lamb Tikka Roll	£3.99
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Lamb Doner	£3.99
Mixed Kebab Roll	£3.99
Mixed Doner Roll	£3.99
Naan	£0.70

SFC Burgers & Wraps

Chicken Fillet Burger	£2.70
Spicy Chicken Fillet Burger	£2.70
Afterburner Burger	£2.70
Chicken Wrap (Reg & Spicey)	£2.79

Fried Chicken

I piece of Chicken	£1.05
2 piece of Chicken	£1.99
6 piece of Chicken	£5.99
8 piece of Chicken	£6.99
10 piece of Chicken	£8.99
12 piece of Chicken	£9.99

Kids Meals

3 Fish Fingers with Fries & Drinks	£1.99
3 nuggets with Fries & Drink	£1.99
Drumstick with Fries & Drink	£1.99
Chicken Popcorn Meal Fries & Drink	£1.99

Other Meals

Chicken Strip Salad	£3.49
Chicken Steak Burger/Meal	£0.99/£2.29
Cheese Burger/Meal	£0.99/2.29
Veggie Burger	£1.99
VeggieWrap	£2.49
Fish Burger	£1.19
Chicken Steak 3 nuggets with Fries & Drink	£0.99/2.29
Lamb Burger	£1.99
Lamb Quarter Pounder	£2.49
Fries: Regular/Large	£0.99/£1.29
Supreme Fillet Burger Regular Fries Regular drink	£3.99
Afterburner Meal, Regular Fries, Regular drink	£3.79
4 BBQ Lamb Ribs, Regular Fries, Regular Drink Price	£3.49

Special Family Meals

6 Chicken Pieces, 2 Large Fries, with Large Drink	£8.99
10 Chicken Pieces, 3 Large Fries, Coleslaw or Beans, with Large drink	£12.99
12 Chicken Pieces, 3 Large Fries, Coleslaw or Beans, with Large drink	£14.99
Pizza 15'' 3 topping, 6 chicken pieces, 2 Large Fries, with Large drink	£15.99
Pizza 15'' 3 topping, 10 chicken pieces, 3 Large Fries, coleslaw or beans with Large drink	£19.99

Make it a meal extra £1 chips and a drink

Desserts available

MK LIFE

YOUR GUIDE TO LEISURE IN YOUR CITY

Christmas cracker - go behind the scenes at this year's panto - see inside

CHURCH **SERVICES**

EVERYONE knows Christmas is a time for family fun and Santa bringing presents but, quite often, the true spirit is forgotten.

Churches all over the city will open their doors to celebrate Christmas with carol services, Christingles and Holy Communion.

Midnight Communion, which is the perfect way to spend some time reflecting and looking forward to the year ahead, is one the most popular services of the year.

They are traditionally held from 11.30pm on Christmas Eve but you should check with individual churches, as sometimes they can start as early as 9.30pm.

Nativity and Christingle services cater for children and at a lot of churches they are encouraged to dress in costume to add to the fun.

Carol services give all the family the opportunity to sing those well-known songs, and are always accompanied by a warm welcome and quite often the odd mince pie.

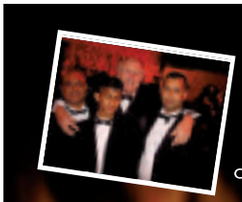
CMK's Christ the Cornerstone is holding a Christingle/Crib Service at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve, followed by a Christmas Vigil Mass at 5.30pm and a Midnight Service with Holy Communion, led by the Rev Dr Brenda Mosedale and the Rev Ernesto Lozada-Uzuriaga, at 11pm.

Services on Christmas Day normally start at 10am, but again it is best to check with each church as some will be as early as 8am.

For those of you who enjoy an early start on Christmas Day, the All Age Christmas Service at Christ the Cornerstone, led by the Rev Mosedale and the Rev Lozada-Uzuriaga, will begin at 10am.

For more on what is going on at a church near you, check the notice-board outside or log onto www.christmasnearyou.com (Church of England) or www.northamptondiocese.org (Roman Catholic) and follow the links.

Leisure or events news? e-mail **editor@mk-news.co.uk** | phone **01908 689595**



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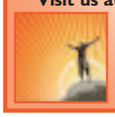
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MKNEWS

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Tickets £16

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DAILY LIFE 01908 280800

TOMORROW

CHRISTMAS Cookies, Stowe Landscape Gardens, 10-11am, 11.30am-12.30pm and 3-4pm. Let your kids create Christmas cookies in the fun workshop. Booking essential, £6 per child. To book your tickets call 01280 822850, or email stowegarden @nationaltrust.org.uk.

ELITE Brass Band, The Hub, CMK. Join the Elite Brass Band playing at the Hub at 7.30pm in aid of Willen Hospice. For more information see www.thehub-miltonkeynes.com.

BEGINNERS' Tai Chi and Chi Kung class, Coronation Hall, Stoke Road, Water Eaton. Beginners 2.30-3.30pm, intermediates 3.30-4.30pm. All welcome. Costs £5 per session. Come and try this soft exercise. Benefits are co-ordination, posture, feel good factor and socialising.

KARAOKE, Kiln Farm Club, 8.30pm. Open to all - even if you don't sing.

FRIDAY

CHRISTMAS party disco, The Burnt Oak Pub, Egerton Gate, Shenley Brook End. Great oldies and new music with DJ Andy H. Free entry and pub price drinks. Open earlier, but disco starts at 8pm.

MUSICAL Monkeys toddler entertainment show, St John's Centre, Warwick Rd, Bletchley, 10-11am. Provides stimulating musical rhymes and actions for babies and pre-school children accompanied by parents. It's a party every week. For more information, visit contact@musical-monkeys.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE

LIVE music with Just Too Delicious, Sportsmens Rest, Shenley Leisure Centre. Visit www.shenleyleisure.org.uk for more information.

BOXING DAY

REGGAE party with the Bighead and Nice Reggae Sound System, The Cannon, Newport Pagnell. Band on stage at 10pm, with DJ James Lambert playing an extended set until midnight. Its a Reggae Party. Doors 8pm, £4.

TREVOR Nelson, Oceana. The biggest post-christmas party in Milton Keynes, featuring cracking tunes, top drinks offers and a special live appearance from BBC Radio 1Xtra's Trevor Nelson. This is one night not to be missed. Tickets £7 at www.oceanaclubs.com.

TUESDAY

BIRD Walk, Forest of Marston Vale, Marston Mortaine, 8-11am. Shake off Christmas excess and find out how birds fare at this time of year. Bring binoculars if you have them. Distance varies. Wear warm clothes and waterproof footwear. Costs £3 for adults, £2 for children, £1 reduction for forest volunteers and members. Please book in advance but pay on the day. Call 01234 767037 for more details and to book.

WEDNESDAY

CRAIG, Live. The Old George, High Street, Stony Stratford. Playing songs from the 1960s, 70s and 80s, plus some comedy, Irish and originals, Craig is a varied and entertaining album collection. From 9-11pm.

SIMON DARNELL

OUR music reviewer, Simon Darnell, takes a look back over the past 12 months of releases and gives you his top ten.

Beastie Boys

Hello, you! Now then, you might think that the good folk at MK NEWS were being a little hopeful in asking me to name as many as ten songs I actually liked, but I did hear some corkers this year. However, there's a catch.

Only one of the songs that made it on my list troubled the Top 75, which means that either I'm horrendously out of touch with what 'the kids' are buying these days or I'm broad-minded enough to listen to anything.

If it's alright with you, I'm going to go with the latter because that way I feel like I know what I'm doing. Here they are then.

HOT SAUCE COMMITTEE PART TWO

Beastie Boys (The best album)

BURSTING with original ideas, gloriously unpredictable and packed with far too many highlights to mention, this is not the sort of album that you'd normally expect from a group that have been together for a quarter of a century. This really is an incredibly good album.

MIDNIGHT CITY

M83 (The best song)

ANY song that can feature a saxophone and not end up with me throwing the device responsible for playing said tune out of the nearest window has to be good, and this is excellent.

As if a saxophone wasn't enough of a test, it's even got howling noises during the chorus and it's still amazing. That's talent, that is.

KNOTS

Lisa Hannigan (The one I didn't actually review when it was released)

I DON'T usually go for folk-type stuff, but this was a good one and no mistake. It starts off fairly twee and filled with the joys of spring, and in fairness it finishes that way too, but along the way it builds itself up until by the end even I was in a good mood. That's praise indeed, that is.

DON'T SIT DOWN 'CAUSE I'VE MOVED YOUR CHAIR

Arctic Monkeys (The one that got into the charts)

THERE'S nothing wrong with creating a song that sounds deadly serious and there's certainly nothing wrong with slapping totally nonsensical lyrics over the top of a song that's supposed to sound like it should be about the singer lamenting the loss of a loved one/his job/his car keys instead.

So what if the title's a dead giveaway? This is wonderful.

By the way, in case you're wondering, it got to number 28 in April.

I'd say it deserved far better, but quite honestly that applies to the entire list.

LOVE DON'T DANCE HERE ANYMORE

Tiga (The one that possibly shouldn't count)

ALTHOUGH the single was released at the end of 2010, I reviewed it in the first week of 2011 so I say it counts.

For two minutes, it's a piano ballad, for another two minutes it's a decent disco number, but then comes the bit that makes it so good.

At the point where other songs fade out, this one keeps going and as it continues it gets better and better, finally ending after ten-and-a-half minutes.

OTHER GREAT SONGS THAT NOBODY BOUGHT

SHAKE, Little Boots; Planetary (Go!); My Chemical Romance; Spock, VCMG; Jack Sparrow, The Lonely Island featuring Michael Bolton; Propeller Seeds, Imogen Heap; Call It What You Want, Foster The People.

I've lumped these songs together, but they're all fine examples in their own right, so if you get an iTunes voucher for Christmas, you could do a lot worse than this little selection.

THE BUSZY

DOWN at The Buszy there will be loads of activities over the holiday period.

Join in with Animation Sessions, using professional cameras and equipment to create your own stop/start animations taking on storyboarding, character design/development and editing.

Fun photography sessions cover shooting places, people and fashion with tips on lighting, movement and photos for media and events.

At the Arts and Crafts Club you can develop modelling, painting and drawing skills. Projects include paper mache, mosiacs and dream catchers.

In the Graff Sessions you can learn about characters, stencilling, tagging and spray can techniques. With the guidance of a professional artist you can design your own image and graff a canvas, t-shirt or cap.

If fashion is your thing then try the Transion Sessions to transform everyday items and old gear into stunning new designs.

There will also be hair and beauty, street dance and skateboarding sessions, as well as the chance to improove your dancing, singing and acting skills. For more details, visit www.thebuszy.com.

Leisure or events news? e-mail **editor@mk-news.co.uk**

MKLIFE | THEATRE | COMPETITION

MK THEATRE 0844 8717652

Deputy stage manager Catherine Gibbs keeps her eye on the monitors

Above: Props are handed out in the Twelve Days of Christmas scene
Below: Smoke scene brought to life

BY JUDY RILEY
PICTURES BY ANDY HANDLEY
editor@mk-news.co.uk

'LADIES and gentlemen, this is your five minute call, five minutes please.'

And so it begins. In the theatre time works differently. The half hour call, that important deadline when all the actors must have checked in at the stage door, is actually 35 minutes before the show starts.

So when deputy stage manager Catherine Gibbs gives the final call over the tannoy 'this is your act one beginners' call, act one beginners please', she has actually got five more minutes in which to make sure that everyone is where they should be - including you, the audience.

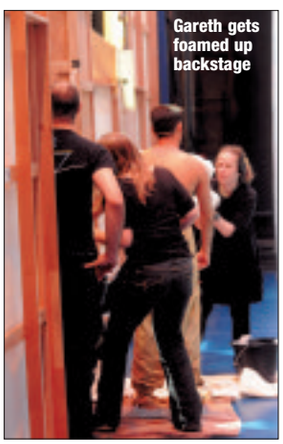
Catherine runs the show. She sits at the prompt desk at the side of the stage with two monitors, a computerised bank of cue switches and a copy of the script in front of her.

With a technical crew of 16, eight dancers, 12 children and nine actors all waiting for their cue to go on or carry out a scene change it can be a bit of a tight squeeze in the wings.

Gareth Gates, meanwhile, is doing a quick change at the back of the stage - thousands of fans would give their eye teeth for a chance to be a dresser on this show. Every one of the cast appears to be having just as good a time both on and off stage as you sitting watching the show.

■ For the full feature, visit www.mk-news.co.uk.

Above and top: Theatre technicians move scenery during a set change



Gareth gets foamed up backstage

MK THEATRE - COMPETITION

THERE'S a big problem with this year's panto - Aladdin's lamp has gone missing! It has been spotted at landmarks all around the city, and MK NEWS has exclusively been sent some snaps of the rogue magic lamp. Can you tell us where he is this week?

As a reward we are offering one keen-eyed reader a family ticket to see Aladdin on Thursday, January 12 at 6pm. To enter simply send your answer, together with your name, address and contact telephone number to MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU, or email competitions@mk-news.co.uk. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, December 28. The editor's decision is final.

Aladdin runs at Milton Keynes Theatre until Sunday, January 15, 2012. To book tickets contact 0844 871 7652 (booking fee) or www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes (booking fee).

Terms and conditions - The family ticket is four tickets, maximum two adults. Entrants must be available to attend the performance on Thursday, January 12 at 6pm. Camilla Dallerup will be performing as the Genie at this performance.

Leisure or events news? e-mail **editor@mk-news.co.uk**

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herbies Hot Bite Onions, sweetcorn, bacon, meatballs, pepperoni and jalapeno peppers			
BBQ Steak Pizza BBQ sauce, green peppers, sweetcorn, steak and BBQ chicken			
New Yorker Onions, mushrooms, green peppers, sausage, beef and pepperoni			
Vegetarian (V) Onion, mushrooms, green peppers, sweetcorn and pineapple			
Vegetarian Hot Onion, mushrooms, green peppers, tomatoes and chillies			

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Rooster Roast, chinese, BBQ and tandoori chicken			
Mixed Grill Crispy bacon, sausage, mushrooms and tomatoes			
Tandoori Pizza Tandoori chicken, onions, mushrooms and jalapeno peppers			
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Farmhouse Ham and mushroom			

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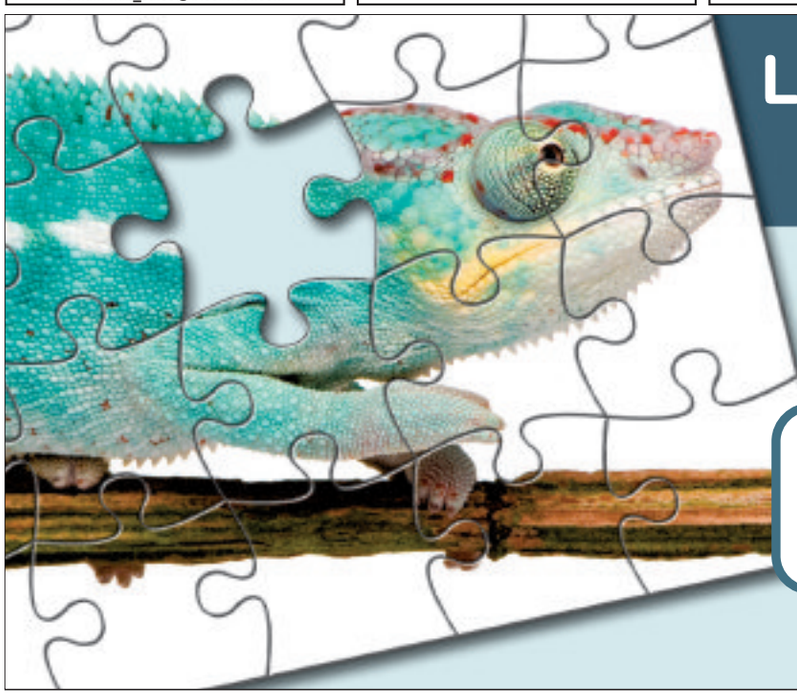

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MKPUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(a) AND (7)
THE M1 MOTORWAY (SOUTH OF JUNCTION 15 TO JUNCTION 13) SOUTHBOUND (TEMPORARY 50 MILES PER HOUR SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 201_

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an Order on the M1 Motorway in Milton Keynes and Central Bedfordshire, to provide a safe working environment for the workforce whilst road marking, stud replacement and routine maintenance works are carried out. The works are expected to take place in 2 phases overnight (11pm–5am).

The effect of the Order would be to impose a 50 miles per hour speed limit, in conjunction with lane 2 and 3 closures or a full carriageway closure, allowing traffic to run on the hard shoulder on the M1 southbound.

Phase 1 - beginning on or after Monday 16 January 2012 and lasting for up to 5 nights, from a point 5500 metres south of the entry slip road at J15 to a point 2200 metres south of the entry slip road at J14, and

Phase 2 – beginning on or after Monday 20 February 2012 and lasting for up to 2 weeks, from a point 2200 metres south of the entry slip road at J14 to the exit slip road at J13.

The temporary mandatory speed limit (which would not apply to emergency service and special forces vehicles) and closures (which would not apply to works, emergency service, traffic officer or winter service maintenance vehicles) would be clearly indicated by traffic signs throughout the works.

The Order would come into force on 10 January 2012 and have a maximum duration of eighteen months.

Mrs A V Middleton, An official of the Highways Agency

General enquiries relating to this notice may be made in writing to Andy Shilliday at the Highways Agency, Woodlands, Manton Lane, Bedford, MK41 7LW or by telephoning him on 01234 796197..

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TIA 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic for sensual relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382081**

STEFF 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curvy size 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382159**

TANYA 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381727**

KERRY 31 outgoing confident with laidback attitude, looking for relaxed relationship with tactile male, any age/looks/size or status. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381697**

ANN slim blonde female, lovely big blue eyes, great personality, outgoing, employed, OHAC, WLTM caring 40's male for adult fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 382085**

TARA 5ft big blue eyed babe with a cute smile looking for older sugar daddy who is not afraid to spend a little to live a lot! Good times always guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381731**

CHRISTMAS special! Tia shy pretty female 39, seeks outgoing man to coax me out of my shell, for good times and old langsyne's. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381333**

SUE long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380853**

JAYNE tall blonde, blue eyes, attractive, OHAC, no ties, enjoys nights out, romantic nights in, WLTM male up to 55yrs for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381365**

DEBBIE dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. Can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380441**

IRENE looking for happy go lucky relationship with trustworthy male for romantic evenings in, quiet nights out, passionate weekends away and more. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381701**

CAROL attractive lady of leisure, solvent, OHAC, WLTM sincere gent willing to entertain and share all of life's naughty indulgences with me. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380857**

EMMIE 28yr old lonely single mum all out of love, looking for good company with male who can tame a confident beautiful sensual lady. Any looks. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 381363**

SARAH 39yr old female looking for a little extra out of life, seeks discreet male in similar circumstance to enjoy intimate mutually respectful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379557**

CARMEL blonde brown eyed girl, employed with OHAC, likes meals out, walking, looking for loving relationship with caring down to earth male. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 380001**

SAM 35, green eyed voluptuous, busty, loves football, theatre, travel, red wine, WLTM older male up to 65yrs for sensual for a sensual relationship. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379975**

BEE tall slim attractive 39, loves good conversation, sensitive but confident people and WLTM someone well balanced to entertain and appreciate. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 378477**

DIANE successful feisty business women, confident, fun, chatty, positive, social with everything but that special someone in her life and WLTM him. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 379203**

MK PUBLIC NOTICES

All the information you need when you need it!

MK PUBLIC NOTICES
All the information you need when you need it!

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN & COUNTRY (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT) PROCEDURE ORDER 2010 AND/OR NOTICE UNDER SECTION 67 OR 73 OF PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS & CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Central Bedfordshire

APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/03140/RM	**Major/Right of Way/GeneralPublicity**
PROPOSAL:	Construction of access road to serve community land.	
LOCATION:	Site 17a Land At Grovebury Farm, Grovebury Road, Leighton Buzzard	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04020/LB	**Affects Listed Building/Conserv. Area**
PROPOSAL:	Listed Building Consent: Update lead work to roof, replace 2 No 1970's Bow windows, replace failed lintels in extension,replace patio doors with French windows, replace coal shed roof from felt to slate, guttering to be cast iron and removal of existing paint. (Part Retrospective)	
LOCATION:	14 Bassett Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AR	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04021/FULL	**Affects Public Right of Way**
PROPOSAL:	Erection of two storey and single storey rear extension and canopies to front elevation	
LOCATION:	25 Dunstall Road, Barton-le-Clay, Bedford, MK45 4NX	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04103/LB	**Affects Listed Building/Conserv. Area**
PROPOSAL:	General redecorations to include latex screed to floor, and new glass partition.	
LOCATION:	14 High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DY	

Planning applications, related documents and drawings can be viewed on our website http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning

Alternatively, the application can be viewed at our offices at Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ or at the Points of Presence at The Old Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill, MK45 2HX. The Job Centre Plus Building, High Street, Biggleswade and Bossard House, West Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DA. Our customer contact telephone number is 0300 300 8307. A paper copy application is sent to the local Town/Parish Council.

If you wish to make representations about any of these applications should do so within 21 days from the date of this notice by writing to the Head of Development Management, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ, or by email to planning@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Please quote the application number/s. Comments should be restricted to valid planning considerations such as effect on amenity, privacy, noise, traffic, access or similar. Please note any representations received are made available on our website for public inspection and so cannot be treated in confidence.

Assistant Director – Development Management 18th December 2011.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN & COUNTRY (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT) PROCEDURE ORDER 2010 AND/OR NOTICE UNDER SECTION 67 OR 73 OF PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS & CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Central Bedfordshire

APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/03834/FULL	**Departure from Dev. Plan/Gen. Publicity**
PROPOSAL:	Two semi detached residential dwellings in the garden to the side of an existing dwelling.	
LOCATION:	23 Leedon Furlong, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3PP	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04285/FULL	**Affects Conservation Area**
PROPOSAL:	Installation of 42 No Photo voltaic roof panels	
LOCATION:	Warwick House, Houghton Hall Business Park, Houghton Regis LU5 5ZX	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04345/FULL	**Departure from Dev. Plan/Gen. Publicity**
PROPOSAL:	Change of Use of land to provide 4 pitches for gypsy/travellers (one mobile home and one touring caravan per pitch) including retention of portable washroom	
LOCATION:	Jockey Farm, Watling Street, Caddington, Dunstable, LU6 3QP	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04350/FULL	**Departure from Dev. Plan/Gen. Publicity**
PROPOSAL:	Continued use of land to provide 3 pitches for gypsy/traveller families (one mobile home and one touring caravan per pitch) and retention of septic tank, existing access, hardstanding fencing and gates	
LOCATION:	Ash Tree Paddock, Stanbridge Road, Great Billington	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04377/FULL	**Departure from Dev. Plan/Gen. Publicity**
PROPOSAL:	Erection of single-storey extension to provide staff accommodation and residents gym (revised scheme – CB/10/03163/REN & CB/10/03176/REN)	
LOCATION:	Hanover International Hotel, Church Street, Dunstable, LU5 4RT	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04378/LB	**Affects Listed Building/Conserv. Area**
PROPOSAL:	Erection of single-storey extension to provide staff accommodation and residents gym (revised scheme – CB/10/03163/REN & CB/10/03176/REN)	
LOCATION:	Hanover International Hotel, Church Street, Dunstable, LU5 4RT	
APPLICATION NO:	CB/11/04380/FULL	**Affects Conservation Area**
PROPOSAL:	Erection of new chimney	
LOCATION:	69A Wing Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2NH	

Planning applications, related documents and drawings can be viewed on our website http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning

Alternatively, the application can be viewed at our offices at Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ or at the Points of Presence at The Old Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill, MK45 2HX. The Job Centre Plus Building, High Street, Biggleswade and Bossard House, West Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DA. Our customer contact telephone number is 0300 300 8307. A paper copy application is sent to the local Town/Parish Council.

If you wish to make representations about any of these applications should do so within 21 days from the date of this notice by writing to the Head of Development Management, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ, or by email to planning@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Please quote the application number/s. Comments should be restricted to valid planning considerations such as effect on amenity, privacy, noise, traffic, access or similar. Please note any representations received are made available on our website for public inspection and so cannot be treated in confidence.

Assistant Director – Development Management 18th December 2011

MKNEWS TO ADVERTISE CALL 01908 242490

Milton Keynes Council

Statutory Notice for the Proposed Closure of The Gatehouse School

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Milton Keynes Council, Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3HS intends to discontinue The Gatehouse School (Community Special School), Crosslands, Stantonbury, Milton Keynes, MK14 6AX on 31 March 2012.

The proposed arrangements from 1st April 2012, if the school closes, are that pupils on roll at The Gatehouse School at the time of closure will transfer to the new Academy to be opened on the same site under section 482 of the Education Act 1996. It is possible that as part of the normal annual review process that individual pupils will be offered places in alternative provision, if that would be more suitable to a pupil's needs.

As educational provision will continue on the same site there are no transport implications. As before, free home to school transport may be provided to pupils attending the new Academy, in line with the Council's published home to school transport policy.

These changes will have a positive impact on standards, diversity and quality of education for pupils with behaviour emotional and social difficulties by:

- Confirming a long term plan for a provision that is more likely to secure improved leadership and management, teaching and learning
- Establishing links with other specialist provision for pupils with behaviour emotional and social difficulties, especially the Personalised Education Centres, so there is greater continuity and consistency of practice
- Establishing links with the outstanding and good secondary schools in Milton Keynes, who will support the school's leadership, management, teaching and learning
- Enhancing the curriculum on offer so that it has more relevance in addressing pupils' needs
- Establishing links with local providers of alternative education so that there is a greater diversity of learning opportunities

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to :

Marie Denny, School Organisation and Planning Manager (01908 253935)

Milton Keynes Council, Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3HS

Objections and comments may also be e-mailed to:
school-organisation-planning@milton-keynes.gov.uk

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from Marie Denny, at the above address

Signed: Gail Tolley, Corporate Director, Children and Families

Publication Date: 21 December 2011

Explanatory Notes

Academies are publicly funded independent schools with sponsors from the private and voluntary sectors. The establishment of an Academy is subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State. It is proposed that the closure of The Gatehouse School should be approved to take effect only if by the date of closure an agreement has been made under section 482(1) of the Education Act 1996 for the establishment of an Academy to replace The Gatehouse School.

NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT DESIGN GUIDE
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD)
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) (Regulation 17)

Milton Keynes Council is consulting on a draft planning policy document for a seven week period commencing on Thursday 22nd December 2011. The **New Residential Development Design Guide SPD** provides guidance on the quality of design that the Council expects to see in planning proposals for new residential development.

The SPD will be available for inspection at the Council's Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes (opening hours: 9am - 5.15pm Monday to Friday), and at all libraries within the Borough. The location and opening times of your nearest library can be found on the Council's website at http://www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/library_services.

All comments should be received by the Council by 5.15 pm on Monday 13th February 2012. Comments can be sent either by post, by email or online.
By post: Urban Design & Landscape Architecture Team, Planning, Economy and Development, Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ.
By email: urban.design@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Online: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/urban-design

Representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specified address of the adoption of the SPD.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at urban.design@milton-keynes.gov.uk or by telephone on 01908 252708.

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VARIOUS ROADS WITHIN MILTON KEYNES AND SURROUNDING AREAS) (PROHIBITION OF STOPPING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS) ORDER 2008) VARIATION ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make an order under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2) and 4(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers, which would have the effect of prohibiting stopping of all vehicles between the hours of 8.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Friday outside the following schools in Milton Keynes:-
Christ the Sower Primary School, Singleton Drive, Grange Farm
The Premier Academy, Mossmans Close, Bletchley
Simpson Combined School, Old Groveway, Simpson
Wavendon Primary School, Walton Road, Wavendon
St Monicas Catholic Primary School, Currier Drive, Neath Hill

All classes of vehicle are affected by the proposed order. Exemptions include emergency service vehicles and military vehicles, school vehicles and community transport vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation and disabled persons' badge holders.

A copy of the proposed order, maps showing the affected roads and the Council's statement of reasons for proposing the order may be viewed at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on any working day and at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes; Westcroft Library, 17-18 Barnsdale Drive; Bletchley Library, Westfield Road; and Kingston Library, Kingston Community Centre, 11 Winchester Circle, during normal opening hours.

Any representations about or objections to this proposal, together with grounds on which they are made should be **sent in writing** to the Assistant Director – Law & Governance, Milton Keynes Council, PO Box 111, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ **to be received** no later than 11 January 2012, quoting reference BAS-P&E-004631-1866.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 21st December 2011
1 Saxon Gate East, Civic Offices, Central Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (WEST SIDE LANE, STOKE GOLDINGTON) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to enable works to be carried out, namely the installation of new storm water gullies and carrier drains. The effect of this will be to temporarily prohibit vehicular access along the whole length of West Side Lane, Stoke Goldington from its junction with the High Street, Stoke Goldington (B526).

It is anticipated that the closure will be in effect from Monday 2nd January 2012 until Thursday 2nd February 2012 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm each day. The road will open sooner if works are completed ahead of schedule.

There is no alternative route for this closure as this is a no through route.

Access will be maintained to residential properties affected by the closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of the Order other than for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles on operational duties.

Advance information signs will be placed at either end of the affected road a few days before the works are due to take place.

The proposed order will come into operation on 2nd January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further Order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 21st December 2011
1 Saxon Gate East, Civic Offices, Central Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (FOOTWAY (PART), PRINCES WAY, BLETCHLEY) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to enable works to be carried out, namely the excavation and laying of high voltage cables for a new substation. The effect of this will be to temporarily prohibit all access along that part of the northern footway on Princes Way, Bletchley between North Street and the footway that links Lords Close with Princes Way, Bletchley.

It is anticipated that the closure will be in effect from Monday 9th January 2012 until Friday 20th January 2012 between the hours of 8.00am and 4.30pm each day. The footway will open sooner if works are completed ahead of schedule.

The alternative route for access will be via the footway on the southern side of Princes Way, Bletchley, adjacent to the closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of this Order other than for the emergency services.

The proposed Order will come into operation on 9th January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further Order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 21st December 2011
1 Saxon Gate East, Civic Offices, Central Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (A422 (PART) CHICHELEY) (40 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 20th December 2011 made the above named Order under section 84(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (the Act). The Order will affect all classes of vehicle and its effect will be to impose a 40 mph speed limit on part of the A422, Chicheley, Milton Keynes. The restriction will effect both sides of the carriageway and will commence from a point approximately 58 metres north-east of its junction with the A509 at Chicheley Hill roundabout for a distance of approximately 770 metres in a north-easterly direction.

The Order will come into effect from 16th January 2012.

A copy of the order, statement of reasons for making the order and a map showing the length of road referred to, may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3HG. Please quote reference number P&E 004651/PB.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to High Court for this purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director Law & Governance 21 December 2011
1 Saxon Gate East, Civic Offices, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3HG

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (FOOTWAY (PART) ADJACENT TO FALCONHURST SCHOOL, EAGLESTONE) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends in not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 because of construction works to be carried out in relation to the expansion of Falconhurst School, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes. The effect of this is to temporarily prohibit access along that length of footway commencing from a point at the school entrance and continuing for a distance of approximately 41 metres in a general easterly direction. It is anticipated that the closure will be in effect from 2 January 2012 to 28 February 2013 between the hours of 7.30 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Friday and 7.30 am to 3.00 pm on Saturdays.

Whilst the footway is temporarily closed the alternative route will be via the footway which runs adjacent to properties numbered 14 to 20 High Trees, Eaglestone.

The alternative route will be signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual and advance information signs will be placed at either end of the length of footway to be closed a few days before the works are due to take place.

There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the Order.

The Order will come into operation on 2 January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further Order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance
21 December 2011
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

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04 (54) Focus 1.8 Tdci Zetec 5dr, Red, Alloys, Air Con, Electric Windows	£3,995
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10 (60) Fiesta 1.6 S1600, Performance Blue, White Alloys, Full Leather, Bluetooth	£11,995
09 (59) Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr Hatch, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player	£8,895
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08 (08) Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate, Tango Red, Front Fogs, Alloys, Air Con, Low Mileage	£6,495
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VANS	PRICE
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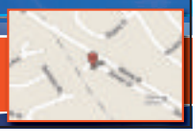

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FOOTBALL

Referee 'bottled' red card

MK Dons assistant boss JOHN GORMAN writes exclusively for MK NEWS every week

EVERYONE is going into the Christmas games full of confidence despite the defeat against Preston.

The attitude in training is that we want to bounce straight back and we want to get to the next game so we can try and continue our brilliant away record.

We have two local games first, against Leyton Orient on Boxing Day and Brentford on New Year's Eve before a home game with Colchester on January 2.

Some have called for a winter break in football but the fans enjoy watching the games at this time of year, especially on Boxing Day.

We did well to take four points from Leyton Orient and Brentford last season so we are looking forward to it.

I have signed a new 18-month deal and I hope to contribute in every way that I can.

As a team Karl and I work really well together, the team have taken on our philosophy of the game and you can see the improvements on the pitch over the last 18 months.

The supporters have been fantastic to us since we took over and I had no hesitation in signing a new deal.

The new contracts for me and Karl will allow us to concentrate on the players and the challenge that we face from now until the end of the season, as well as developing the excellent crop of youngsters we have.

There was a good 3-0 win in a behind closed doors match against Millwall on Monday, as the young players fielded played some good football.

On Tuesday the club visited the children's ward at Milton Keynes Hospital (turn to page seven).

As players and staff this is one of the most important things we do over Christmas – we all donate money and then shop for gifts for the kids who are spending Christmas in hospital this year.

It is a really humbling experience and if an appearance from the players and staff can bring some festive cheer to these kids we are delighted to assist.

DONS 0 PRESTON 1

Steven Smith, *above*, tackles Charlie MacDonald as Preston stood firm

REF Andre Mariner was accused of 'bottling it' by Dons boss Karl Robinson as his side slid to their first home defeat of the season.

The Premier League official took charge of the League One clash on Saturday – his first assignment since a bizarre incident last month when he failed to penalise Blackburn for taking a corner to themselves against Wigan.

Afterwards, Robinson suggested that he needed to be demoted another couple of divisions.

It was an incident with just over 20 minutes to go which caused the manager's wrath.

Jamie McCombe, who had already been booked, dragged down Charlie MacDonald who was trying to mount a quick break.

This should have resulted in McCombe taking an early bath but Mr Mariner inexplicably didn't even give a free-kick.

Robinson, whose team were one down at the time, was livid on the touchline.

"The referee bottled it," he said. "He's four yards away and everyone in the whole stadium has seen he got pulled."

Dons, who missed the chance to put further pressure on the top two thanks to the defeat, would certainly have welcomed the chance to play against one less Preston player, as the visitors packed their defence for much of the match after taking an early lead.

Their goal came in a period of dominance at the start of the contest when Dons, now fourth, were run ragged.

It had a been a turbulent week for Preston after new chairman Peter Risdale sacked boss Phil Brown with the club, relegated last year, in tenth plate.

Duo David Unsworth and Graham Alexander have taken charge and made tactical and personnel changes ahead of the stadiummk clash which was beamed live on Sky.

The players clearly wanted to put in a performance as they started like lightning to leave Dons on the ropes.

With seven minutes played Jabo Ibehre gave the ball away, leading to a Danny Mayor cross which Paul Parry met with a brilliant angled header past David Martin.

It should have been two when Paul Coutts raced through after Neil Mellor's pass, but his shot clipped the upright.

Dons gradually found a foothold and then dominated possession, but they were unable to fashion a major clear cut chance against a Preston side who battled superbly to frustrate the hosts and hang onto their lead.

Robinson's side were below par with uncharacteristic loose balls creeping in to play, and they were not as effective as usual out wide.

The passing game didn't click as normal on a day when there was simply no way through or any major home chances – in the end the slow start was to cost them.

I don't think we left anything on the pitch," Robinson said.

"I said to the players, teams are going to come here and be happy to take a point, so when they go 1-0 up it's going to be ten times worse. They've defended fantastically well, with eight in front of the goal.

"I was disappointed with the first ten minutes of the game but overall I'm pleased and proud of the players."

BASKETBALL

Lions revival comes to an end with disappointing defeat in Shark's pool

A THREE-GAME winning run by MK Lions was brought to an abrupt halt by Sheffield Sharks on Friday night.

Mike New's players have been in good form of late after early season stutters, and had chalked up a treble of victories over Worcester Wolves, Durham Wildcats and Cheshire Jets.

The latter was their first British Basketball League win on their travels but Lions were unable to repeat the trick in South Yorkshire as Sharks bulldozed their way to a comprehensive 85-66 win.

Lions have had little trouble racking up the points in recent weeks but they were kept at bay in Sheffield who restricted MK to their lowest haul of the season.

They have now slipped to seventh in the table going into the short festive break.

In a sloppy first quarter Lions gave their hosts an early Christmas present by committing seven turnovers and they also managed to miss 11 lay ups, and Sheffield's lead was already 28-13.

Things got better in the second quarter as Lions helped themselves to nine unanswered points to bring themselves back into contention at 36-29.

However, the seven point gap was as close as Lions got as a poor start to the third quarter saw the game drift out of reach.

Sheffield bagged ten of the first 12 points scored to lead 54-39, prompting New to call a time-out to try and pump some life into his charges.

Lions tried valiantly to get themselves back into the game through Stefan Gill but they could not close the gap significantly prior to the end of the third and they trailed by 14 points at 65-51 heading into the final quarter, which turned out to be an easy ride for the Sharks.

Howard Crawford sat out most of the second half with concussion and Dan Northern was in danger of being fouled out of the game as Sheffield eased their way to their victory.

Demarius Bolds, the league's top scorer, was again the highest scoring Lion with 18 points and Gill chipped in with 15.

Sheffield's Jimmy Langhurst led the way in the match with a haul of 26 points.

Lions will return to action on December 30 with a home match against Worcester, tip-off at 7.30pm.

Demarius Bolds again top-scored for Lions.

SPORTSSHORTS

RUGBY UNION

Wooton Bassett 26 Milton Keynes 31

MK BOUNCED back from two defeats to record a superb away win at top four Wooton Bassett.

In a tight first half where the lead regularly changed times, Stuart Tomkinson scored two tries for the visitors who trailed 19-17 at the break.

Darren Broderick scored his first try for the club to give MK a 24-19 lead, but there was another swing when Wooton added another try of their own to retake the lead 26-24.

The city side kept coming though and in the 75th minute found a killer blow.

Another big drive by the pack through the centre of the field was recycled quickly and spread wide by the backs, and Dan Rolfe powered through the last ditch tackle to score in the corner.

Swindon 59 Bletchley 10

THERE was a heavy defeat for Bletchley who found Swindon in no mood for any Christmas generosity on a cold afternoon.

Chris Coussell and Will Garrett both went over for Bletchley but Swindon ran riot.

Olney 17 Marlow 40

A POOR first half cost Olney dear as Marlow won comfortably in front of a good home crowd.

The home side conceded four converted tries in the opening period to trail 27-8 at the break and there was no way back, despite a closer second half.

MK SUNDAY LEAGUE

ONLY two games survived the weather this week and the league will now break until January 8.

Willen extended their lead at the top of the Premier Division with a 4-2 win over King's Arms, and in Division One Stoke Hammond beat Buckingham United 7-2.

SWIMMING

A GROUP of City of Milton Keynes swimmers competed in the Hillingdon level one open meet, and there were gold medals for Oliver Lines, Bethany Barby, Jason Ashley, Chris Forshaw and Lucy Farmer.

There was also a new club record in the 50m breaststroke for Courtney Dos Santos (30.93s) and Rebecca Marshall and Ben Flaherty gained national qualifying times in the 50m freestyle and 400m individual medley respectively.

ATHLETICS

THIRTY runners took part in MK Athletics Club's 'Watchless Wolverton Five' – where the winner is whoever comes closest to correctly predicting their time.

The winner was Andy Harrison who was actually three seconds faster than predicted, while the women's winner was Diane Baldwin.

GOLF

WOBURN Sands professional Ian Poulter won the Australian Masters with his score of 15- which saw him beat Marcus Fraser by two strokes.

MKSPORT

Wednesday, December 21, 2011 | Issue no 485 | www.mk-news.co.uk | £1 where sold

Lions are shark bait in Sheffield – page 43

Can't get through: Stephen Gleeson's volley was about as close as Dons came to scoring in Saturday's 1-0 defeat to Preston, but Karl Robinson was angry that ref Andre Mariner *(insert left)* didn't send off Preston's Jamie McCombe *(insert right)*. More on page 43. Pictures: Andy Handley.

Never any intention to go

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

KARL Robinson doesn't expect speculation about his Dons future to come to an end despite his new three-year deal with the club.

But if his name is mentioned in connection with any more Championship jobs the answer will be the same as it has always been – I'm not interested.

The boss penned the rolling contract before Saturday's defeat to Preston after numerous reports this season linking him with a move to a higher division.

Robinson – regarded as one of the brightest young managerial talents in the country due to his superb record with Dons – has consistently said that he doesn't want to go.

But if his side keep doing the business on the pitch he doesn't expect the whispers about his future to stop.

Assistant manager John Gorman has also committed his future to Dons with a new 18-month agreement to give the club a double festive boost.

Robinson said: "If we keep winning games there's always going to be speculation.

"But now the club has got more of a strangle hold on anything that happens in the future, so it's good news for everyone.

"I'm so proud to be here, and hopefully the club are just as proud."

Nottingham Forest, Portsmouth, Hull City and Leicester City are among the clubs to have looked at Robinson as a potential candidate in light of their managerial vacancies.

The new deal comes only months after he signed his last three year contract at the club in April, perhaps suggesting that Dons are keen to end the speculation and tie their man down further.

"I want to put everything to bed," Robinson said. "I'm dedicated to the club and wanted to show the people that I am.

"I have never had any intention to leave the club, despite what reports elsewhere may have suggested."

Club chairman Pete Winkelman added: "It has been no secret that the excellent work both Karl and John have been doing has caught the attention of a number of clubs in higher divisions.

"They have both expressed their desire to stay here and I am delighted we have been able to confirm this commitment with new deals."

The Dons players will be given Christmas Day off as they prepare for the festive fixtures, starting with Leyton Orient away on Boxing Day.

Carr's rocket brings early festive cheer

MK LIGHTNING recovered after blowing a two goal lead against Swindon Wildcats but they couldn't hang on when they mounted a comeback of their own against Manchester Phoenix.

Nick Poole's skaters were 2-0 up against Swindon on Saturday thanks to two goals by Leigh Jamieson but the Wildcats pegged them back to level the contest.

The strikes didn't matter in the end though as Lightning skipper Adam Carr blasted in a winner to ensure a valuable victory at Planet Ice.

It was a different story 24-hours later though as Lightning found the shoe to be on the other foot.

Manchester, who were desperate for a win to secure League cup qualification and to restore local pride after a 9-0 drubbing away to Slough 24-hours earlier, opened up a 2-0 lead of their own.

This time Lightning struck back to level but, like Swindon, their efforts were also fruitless as Phoenix, the reigning English Ice Hockey League Champions, added another two goals to pull out of reach.

The result has left Lightning third in the league standings.

Lightning's record for powerplay goals has been less than impressive this season until scoring two in last week's home victory over Slough – and that record continued against Swindon when Nick Poole supplied in-form Jamieson to bag the opener against a shorthanded Swindon, and his second also came after the visitors were a man down.

The Wildcats comeback was disappointing in an increasingly feisty contest which had earlier seen Matt Towalski thrown out of the game after his objections to a holding penalty.

But Carr's goal, an unassisted rocket of a shot, gave the home fans some early Christmas cheer.

It was that man Jamieson again who sparked the comeback against Manchester with two more goals on the powerplay but sharpshooter Martin Cingel bagged a couple for Manchester to end Lightning's hopes of another maximum points weekend.

The next assignment for Poole's men will give them an immediate chance for revenge, as Manchester are the visitors to Planet Ice on December 30.

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